Introduced by Senator Soto

February 21, 2006

An act to add Section 39516.5 39600.5 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to air resources.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1377, as amended, Soto. State Air Resources Board: executive officer. memorandum of understanding.

Existing law imposes various limitations on emissions of air contaminants for the control of air pollution from vehicular and nonvehicular sources. Existing law generally designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency with the primary responsibility for the control of vehicular air pollution. Existing law requires the state board to do those acts as may be necessary for the proper execution of the powers and duties granted to, and imposed upon, the state board by law.

This bill would permit the state board to enter into a voluntary agreement, including a memorandum of understanding, with a public or private entity, as provided, and would require the state board to perform specified functions in entering into an agreement. The bill would require the state board to submit annual reports on all existing agreements to the Legislature, as provided.

Existing law imposes various limitations on emissions of air contaminants for the control of air pollution from vehicular and nonvehicular sources and generally designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency with the primary responsibility for the control of vehicular air pollution. Existing law requires the state board

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to appoint an executive officer and, except as specified, authorizes the state board to delegate any duty to the executive officer that the state board deems appropriate. Under existing law, any power, duty, purpose, function, or jurisdiction that the state board may lawfully delegate is conclusively presumed to have been delegated to the executive officer unless it is shown that the state board, by affirmative vote recorded in the minutes of the state board, specifically has reserved the same for the state board's own action. Existing law requires the state board, upon the receipt of a petition from any affected member of the public, affected district, or designated air quality planning agency, to hold a public hearing to review any action taken by the executive officer pursuant to specified provisions relating to nonattainment area plans.

This bill would require the executive officer to submit to the Legislature any proposed memorandum of understanding proposed to be entered into between the executive officer and another person or public or private entity, and would prohibit a proposed memorandum of understanding so submitted from taking effect unless it is approved by statute passed by majority vote of each house of the Legislature and signed by the Governor.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 39600.5 is added to the Health and 2 Safety Code, to read:
 - 39600.5. (a) The state board may enter into a voluntary agreement, including a memorandum of understanding with a public or private entity, necessary for the proper execution of the powers and duties granted to, and imposed upon, the state board by this division and by any other provision of law.
 - (b) Any agreement entered into which serves to reduce emissions shall be no longer than two years in duration, and shall address unregulated or under regulated sources, and shall continue only until appropriate regulation or legislation is enacted to address those unregulated or under regulated sources.
- 13 (c) Any agreement pursuant to this section shall provide 14 opportunities for public participation, consistent with normal 15 rulemaking processes by the state board.

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(d) The state board shall ratify all voluntary agreements, including, but not limited to, those entered into by the Executive Officer to reduce emissions.

- (e) Prior to ratifying an agreement, the state board shall perform all of the following functions:
- (1) Consult with, and consider the suggestions of, the public and all interested parties, including, but not limited to, the Legislature, the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association, and all entities affected by the agreement.
- (2) Conduct at least three public workshops, located in affected areas of the state, to solicit comments on the proposed agreement.
- (3) Prepare a written report relating to the agreement that contains at least all of the following:
- (A) A description of the public participation process, including public opinions and recommendations relating to the agreement.
- (B) A description of the emissions reductions achieved by the agreement. Targeted emissions reductions shall be from an established baseline, and shall be permanent.
- (C) An assessment of the local cumulative impacts and environmental justice implications.
- (D) An analysis of the methods of compliance and enforceability of the agreement.
- (E) An analysis of the agreement pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, including an analysis of the significant environmental impacts, alternatives, and mitigation measures that would reduce these impacts.
- (4) Evaluate and incorporate the best available control technologies and new emerging alternative technologies into the agreement, to the extent feasible.
 - (5) *Initiate the development of appropriate legislation.*
- (6) The chairperson of the state board shall consult with the Legislature. At the discretion of the Legislature or any committee thereof, the chairperson of the state board or his or her designated representatives shall testify before the Legislature or committee to explain the rationale for the agreement, including why current authority does not support a regulatory approach.
- (f) Voluntary agreements that the state board ratifies shall be reevaluated every year, and the state board shall submit annual

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reports on all existing agreements to the Legislature that include but not limited to, all of the following:

- (1) An evaluation of the effectiveness of every agreement, annual reevaluations of every agreement, as applicable, and an analysis of compliance, participation rates, and enforceability of each agreement.
 - (2) The status of any memorandum of understanding.
- (3) An evaluation of the emissions reductions achieved through the agreement.
- (4) An evaluation of the best available control technologies and new emerging alternative technologies for the applicable pollution sources categories incorporated by the agreement.
- (g) Failure to comply with this section shall invalidate any agreement entered into pursuant to this section.
- (h) The provisions of this section shall apply to any memorandum of understanding entered into by the Executive Officer after January 1, 2007.
- SECTION 1. Section 39516.5 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:
- 39516.5. (a) The executive officer shall submit to the Legislature any memorandum of understanding proposed to be entered into between the executive officer and any other person or public or private entity.
- (b) A proposed memorandum of understanding submitted in accordance with subdivision (a) shall not take effect unless it is approved by statute passed by majority vote of each house of the Legislature and signed by the Governor.